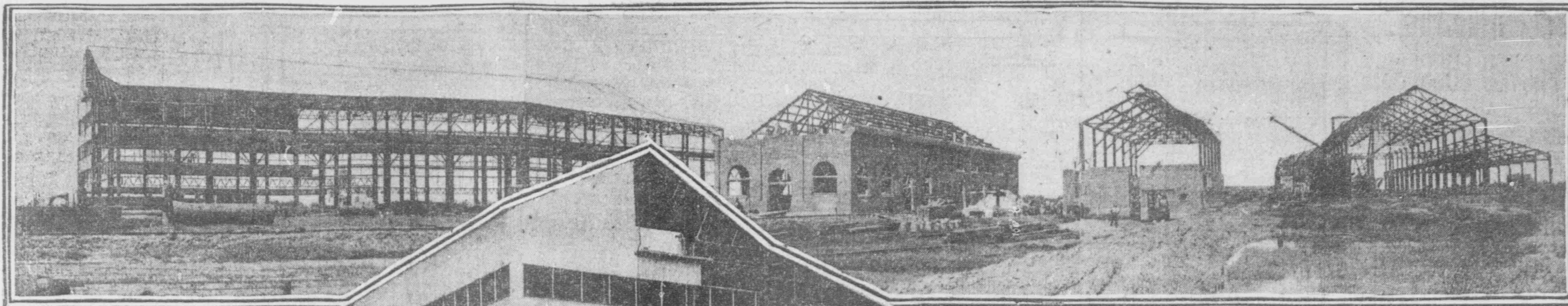


# CREATING INDUSTRIAL CENTER ON POTOMAC



View of the Steel Plant at Giesboro Point.

Plant of the Firth-Stirling Steel Company at Giesboro Point Now Nearing Completion.

One Million Dollars Invested in Land and Buildings Shows Faith in Capital's Future.

Casting aside that form of inactivity always charged against cities, the Washington Times will soon enter into a phase of business activity which promises to carry it into the front rank of cities of the industrial class.

How near the community is to the realization of this condition, long looked-for and wished-for by many, is told in a brief story of the remarkable progress made by the agents of the Firth-Stirling Steel Company, of Pittsburgh, in the work of constructing a mammoth steel plant at Giesboro Point, on the Potomac, below Annapolis.

To have suggested a year ago the construction here of a plant for the manufacture of steel projectiles would have been declared almost absurd; sixty days hence, to offer the statement of J. R. Rose, local agent and constructing engineer of the Firth-Stirling Company, four modern structures for the manufacture of steel projectiles and practice shells for United States Government consumption will have been completed. The Nation's Capital will then receive its first recognition as a steel producing city.

#### Purchase of the Site.

Barely five months ago the Firth-Stirling Company, long established as a competitor for Government contracts, with other large projectile producing firms, sent its representative, Mr. Rose, to this city, instructed to purchase the required building site. Ten acres at Giesboro Point were secured, and the construction work immediately begun. During the interval which has elapsed a small army of expert steel workers, concrete mixers, and miscellaneous laborers have been constantly busy, and in the four principal structures which have so far taken definite shape over solid foundations of concrete is read the second chapter of Washington's awakening into industrial life.

The third and final chapter will come two months from now, when the last echo of the hammers is heard and the actual work of constructing the plant ceases. Then, according to Mr. Rose, the company will kindle its blast furnaces and, with the orders for projectiles now on hand, will be prepared to run at least a year without stopping. Afterward, it will work on indefinitely, when the squadrons of Uncle Sam's navy need their batteries replenished and the huge armor plates at the Indian Head proving ground have to be tested.

#### Million Dollars Invested.

In the entire plant, which, when completed, will be modern in every detail and will contain new features in this branch of the steel industry, there will be represented an investment of nearly \$1,000,000. It will give employment the year round to about 500 men, who will receive the top wages paid to laboring men of this class. The plant will be equipped to compete with any projectile manufacturing concern in the country.

The main building will be the machine shop, a structure built entirely of steel, 300 by 125 feet, and which will contain the best lathes and steel-turning machinery. The forge shop will rank next in importance, measuring 300 by 127 feet, and in it will be located the big blast furnaces where the actual work of casting the shells and projectiles will be done.

#### Use Big Power Plant.

Emerging from the furnaces, the projectiles will next pass into the treatment shop, where they are prepared for use and delivery. A fine power house, costing \$100,000 and containing dynamos capable of producing 1,000-horsepower, will complete the group of four interesting buildings. In this power plant will be generated all the lighting and motive power used in connection with the steel plant.

Immediately following the completion of the first four structures, it is the intention of the Firth-Stirling Company to dismantle three buildings now used in connection with the Pittsburgh plant, transport them to this city, and erect them at Giesboro Point, making seven buildings in all.

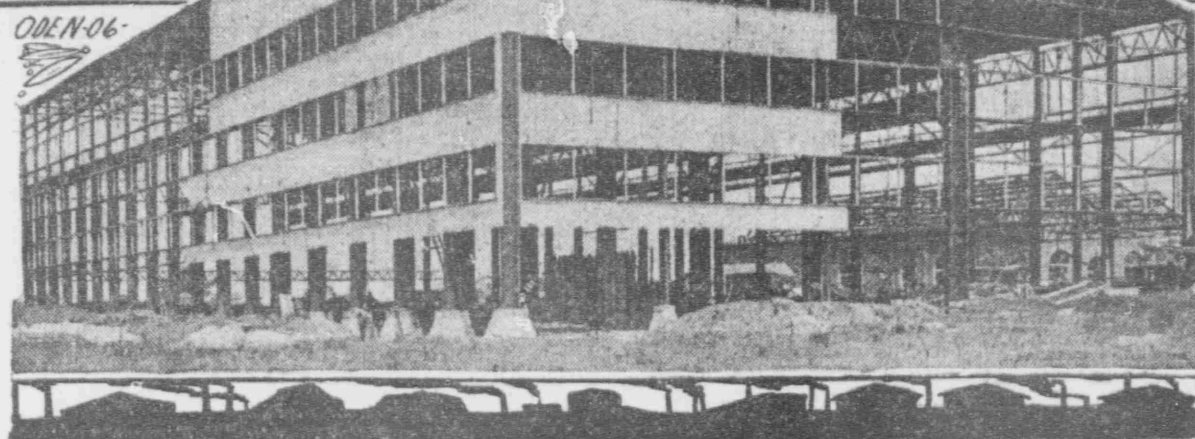
These buildings will be known as the laboratory, storehouse, and blacksmith shop, and their presence here is regarded by the company as being necessary to complete the modern steel plant, which has come to the Capital to stay.

#### CRITICISM.

"Do you know, Herr Schmidt, your lyrics have something so natural, I might even say of the elements. Your poems affect me like the sunrise in some beautiful Alpine resort."

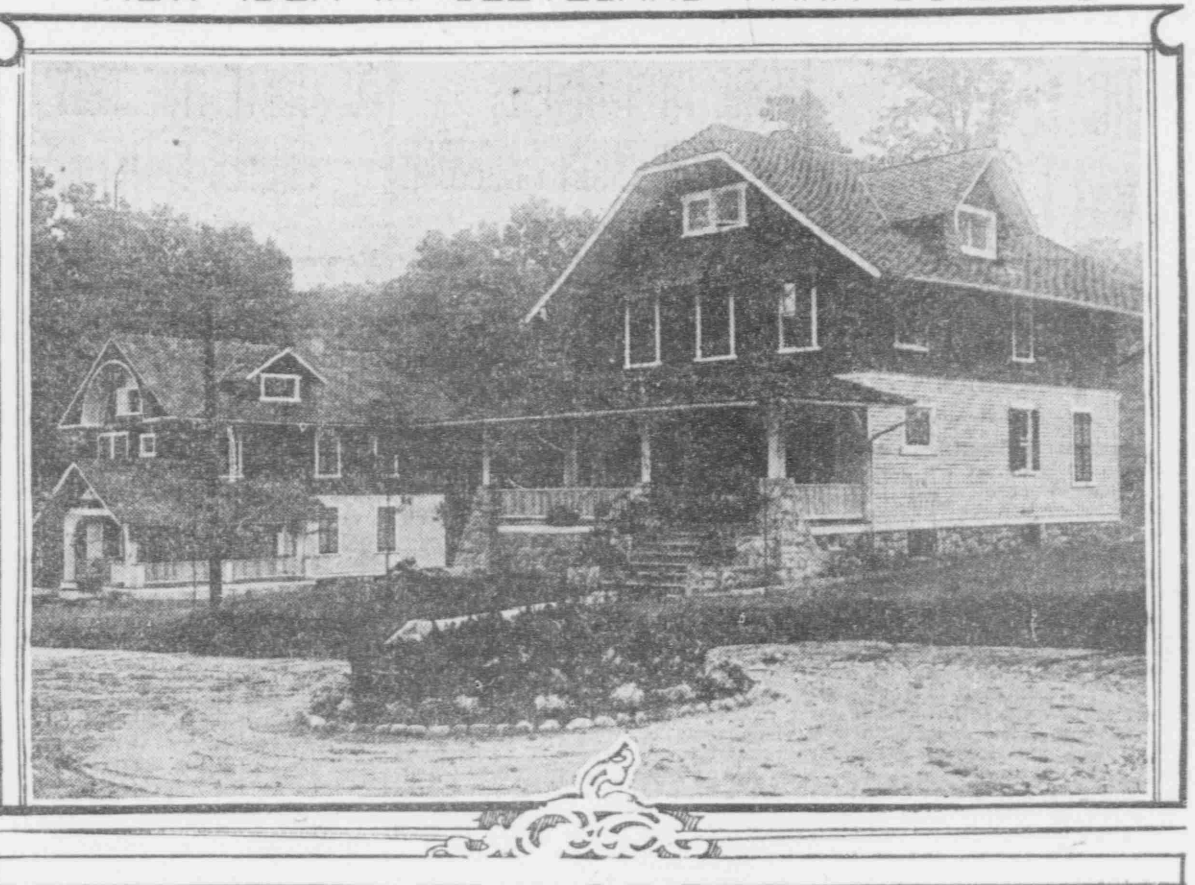
"Really—so sweetly?"

"Yes. At sunrise in the Alps I always sleep quite soundly."—Salonwitzblatt.



Near View of One End of the Main Building.

## NEW IDEA IN CLEVELAND PARK BUILDING



The Contractor Supplies the Vines, Lawn, Flower Beds, as Well as the House.

## SEWERAGE WEST OF ROCK CREEK

Much Needed Improvements in That Section Are Suggested.

Views of L. P. SHOEMAKER

Installation of System Necessary to Health and to Value of Property.

To the Editor of The Washington Times:

I am gratified to read your recent editorial upon the subject of sewerage west of Rock Creek, because it gives an indication of your interest in our people who have owned land for so many years and paid taxes thereon without public improvements. In their behalf, however, I must call your attention to the fact that you err in your opposition to what is known as service sewers. Of course, we are all in favor of a great trunk sewerage system which should extend from the city east of Brightwood avenue to Petworth, Brightwood Park, and Takoma; another following the east side of Rock Creek, which would drain the territory east of the creek and west of the avenue; another on the west side of Rock Creek following the stream to the Military road and thence up the Soapstone valley to Tenleytown and also up the Military road to Chevy Chase, Pinehurst, and other places in that vicinity.

These large trunk sewers should really have been laid some years ago. If they had been laid many improvements would now be found where the land is vacant and non-productive of revenue at the present time. In their absence a great many people have, however, gone on and built upon their property and established homes without an opportunity to observe sanitary laws and regulations.

#### An Increase in Taxation.

Taxation has been enormously increased every three years. I want to give you an illustration of this question of taxation by telling you that the owner of one tract of land which until this year paid an annual tax of \$1,000 upon the assessed value, and now it has been

increased almost \$3,000 per year. Yet in the whole history of the District of Columbia, going back if you choose for a period of fifty or seventy-five years, there has not been a public improvement of any importance involving the expenditure of money directly affecting the tract of land to which I refer. No street has been made through it. No old roads which border it are as rough and circuitous as they were fifty years ago. No sewerage has been provided. Whence then is the justification for this enormous increase of annual taxation imposed by men who have little, if any, property interests in the District and contribute practically nothing for its maintenance and support, and from whose judgment and action the people have no right of appeal, and whose arbitrary authority is so exercised as to impose a burden which has become extremely difficult to bear?

If the District of Columbia was financed, as every other community in this country has been financed and is now being financed, there would be no necessity for increased taxation. Current revenue is more than sufficient to meet current expenses, and large unusual and extraordinary improvements, such as the Municipal building, the Union station, provision for sewerage, street extensions, and expensive bridges, should come from the proceeds of a loan and be liquidated each year from current revenues until finally paid off at the end of some reasonable term.

#### Improvements That Are Needed.

The result, however, of present management is that we are burdened with constantly increased taxation while our money is going into larger improvements, some of which I have mentioned and we are consequently unable to secure sewers, water mains, and streets where they are actually needed to accommodate our rapidly increasing population and thus properly develop and improve our territory and legitimately augment municipal revenues.

You are evidently not aware of the fact that the people out there are not asking for a very small service sewer at the present time nor are they asking for a very large trunk sewer such as would cost \$200,000 or \$300,000, the amount stated by you. The fact is realized that we will all be dead and that thousands will have to reside upon property without observing sanitary laws and regulations if we wait for this system of trunk sewerage.

I agree with you that trunk sewers ought to be provided. We ask, however, and the Northwest Suburban Citizens' Association and the Brightwood Citizens' Association have petitioned for a twenty-four inch sewer. Just such a sewer as accommodates Petworth, Brightwood Park, Takoma, and that section of the District and has accommodated it for the last ten years. Just

such a sewer as now accommodates and has for many years accommodated Cleveland Park.

#### Comparisons With Other Sections.

Suppose the people of Cleveland Park, Petworth, Brightwood Park, and Takoma, the thousands who are living out there today, had waited until they secured the great trunk sewers to which you refer. Do you think for a moment the improvements that are now in these sections would ever have been made? Without such a sewerage system as has been provided it would be impossible to preserve the health of so large a number of people. You will therefore observe that you are not entirely familiar with the situation. The system of sewerage which we have asked for is not a service sewer, as you have termed it, nor is it a trunk sewer, but what might be called a sewer which would be amply sufficient for all purposes for the next twenty-five years or longer.

In support of your contention in advocacy of large trunk sewers you refer to rain water. We are not troubled in the least about the rain water. It has always rained out there in the past and I suppose will always rain there in the future, and the water has found its way from the beautiful promontories west of Rock Creek, through the picturesque valleys and tributaries of that stream, thence to the Potomac, and we do not object to it continuing to do so. What we want, and what our association has asked for, is sufficiently large sewers to enable our people to provide their houses with modern improvements and thus observe sanitary laws and regulations.

I have every reason to believe that you, representing The Times, will support us in our reasonable effort to secure an improvement so absolutely necessary to promote the health and comfort of our people.

LOUIS P. SHOEMAKER.  
Washington, August 25.

#### WHY THE SALOON FLOURISHES.

For seventy-nine days the doors of the San Francisco saloons, side doors included, were closed. Liquor was fairly plentiful, but it was to be had only by bootleggers. The social attractions of the saloons were lacking. When finally the saloons were opened, their proprietors were surprised to find their hopes of a golden harvest illusory. Some of them even doubted whether their receipts would "break even" with their high license fees and rentals. Comparatively few men in San Francisco seem to have had the "liquor habit." It was not the craving for drink that sent them into the saloons—and that will presently take them back there again in the lack of an alternative—but the normal, legitimate, and proper desire for companionship and social relaxation. When temperance workers have met that desire without preaching or offensive patronage they will have gone a long way toward solving the drink problem.—New York World.

## BENNING PROPERTY BOUGHT BY ACRES

Virginians Acquire Large Tract For Subdivision Purposes.

THE ACREAGE PRICE, \$750

Land Having Frontage of Quarter Mile on Benning Road, Sold by A. Richards.

The recording of a deed to the tract known as Fortune Enlarged on last Thursday brought out the fact that a sale of acreage property of considerable proportions in the neighborhood of Benning had been consummated.

The tract embodied sixty acres and belonged to A. Richards. It lies east of Benning about one-quarter of a mile from the Benning road on the north and directly opposite Stickney's subdivision and close to Glendale. It is suitably located for subdivision and it is the intention of the purchasers to have it platted and placed upon the market.

The purchasers, who are represented by Gilbert C. Spitzer, of the Building and Supply Corporation, are said to be a party of Virginians, from the neighborhood of Rockingham county, to be known under the firm name of the Valley Realty Company. The price paid was, it is said, \$50,000, which is at the rate of \$750 per acre.

## NEW RESIDENCE FOR E. S. NEWMAN

Will Be Erected on Columbia Heights at Cost of About \$7,000.

A permit has been issued for an attractive residence for E. S. Newman, to be built on the north side of Harvard street, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets, Columbia Heights, after plans prepared by George P. Hale, architect of this city. It is intended to be modern in every way and will be decidedly a style of its own in that section. The front will be of dark red brick laid in white mortar, showing the Flemish bond. A broad piazza will run the entire width of the house, the roof of which will be supported on Doric columns, while the balustrade above will give a graceful and dainty effect. The front will be two stories high, the attic being lighted by a dormer window. The cornice and trimmings will be in white and the roof a greenish tint, giving it a colonial appearance.

The first floor will contain parlor and reception hall, together with dining room and kitchen and an arrangement of pantries that will appeal specially to the careful housewife. The second floor will contain four sleeping apartments and the usual accessories, while the attic will be used for a trunk room and storage purposes. The building is to have a frontage of twenty feet, with a clear depth of seventy, and is estimated to cost about \$7,000. Burgess & Parsons have secured the contract to build.

#### UP AGAINST IT.

Proprietor Bookshop (in Lallapalooza, Ind.)—Look here, young man! Why didn't you forward the list of our six best-sellers to New York last week? The New Clerk—"Cause we only sold five, sir—Puck."



September 3, 1906, Is Labor Day.

We expect on that day to break our own record in the sale of lots at Randle Highlands. Last Labor Day, September 4, 1905, we broke all records, and the records of the Recorder of Deeds for September 30, 1905, shows that more deeds were recorded from the United States Realty Company than from all others in the entire city of Washington and the balance of the District of Columbia combined. Watch us break our own record September 3, 1906. Lots \$20 to \$300. Sold on easy monthly payments. Send for plat and free automobile. Go out today and see the city grow. Take Capital Traction car marked F & G, going east, and get free transfer at Pennsylvania Avenue bridge to Randle Highlands. United States Realty Co., 7th St. and La. and Pa. Aves. N. W. Office open from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Telephone Main 6221-6222.

## THEATERS IN NEW YORK IMMENSELY VALUABLE

The amount invested in theaters on Manhattan Island is placed at \$20,000,000. In making its valuations the city does not separate from the market value of a theater the value of stores or offices which may be in the same building, but practically such offices or stores are of small account, for the chief value is in the land. The Metropolitan Opera House is assessed at \$2,900,000; the Knickerbocker, \$1,200,000; the Casino, \$850,000; the Herald Square Theater, \$1,200,000; the Fifth Avenue Theater, \$1,000,000; the Princess Theater, \$750,000, and Wallacks \$75,000.

## HIGH RECORD AT CHICAGO FOR BUILDING OPERATIONS

Building operations in Chicago for the seven months ending with July 31 were the largest in recent years, despite the high prices for material and labor and the difficulty in getting mechanics to do any work. They were paid from \$4 to \$5 per day.

## VALUABLE G STREET CORNER TRANSFERRED

Title Taken to Property Sold at Auction Over a Month Ago.

The deed went on record yesterday conveying to William W. Miller the property at the northwest corner of Thirteenth and G streets northwest. This is the piece that was sold at auction about a month ago, as related at the time, and brought in the neighborhood of \$20 a foot, practically the highest price ever paid for G street property. The consideration named in the deed is \$45,750. The improvements are of small value, and it is not unlikely that in the near future a handsome building will decorate this valuable corner.

## For Rent The Bliss Properties

Direct dealing between tenant and owner is just one reason of the popularity of these properties—modern housekeeping apartments and dwellings, located in desirable sections of Washington, are noted for the thorough manner in which they are maintained throughout the year by a force of competent decorators and mechanics in the exclusive employ of the owner.

Long experience and careful study have resulted in a perfect system. The owner's agent visits and inspects each property daily, only polite and accommodating janitors are employed, special attention is given to heating, telephones are installed in many apartments, and the elevator service is of the highest order.

The following merit inspection of the public:

**THE KINGMAN,**  
423 Massachusetts avenue N. W.,  
Five rooms, \$40.00.

**THE LA GRANDE,**  
607 Fourth Street N. W.,  
Five and six rooms, \$31.50 up.

**THE LORRAINE,**  
1404 Park Street N. W.,  
Five rooms, \$27.50.

**THE RAYMOND,**  
814 Twenty-second Street N. W.,  
\$22.50 up.

**THE ASTORIA,**  
Third and G Streets N. W.,  
Rooms and Apartments .....\$8.00 up.

**THE PENHURST,**  
48 H Street N. E.,  
Four and five rooms, \$20 up.

41 B Street N. W. (new),  
Two and three rooms, \$20.00 up.

1332 Harvard Street N. W.,  
Six rooms, \$38.00 up.

Sixth and K Streets N. E.,  
Houses of two apartments,  
Six rooms, hot water free, \$25.00.

#### DWELLINGS.

1436 Park Street, \$65.00.  
1824 N. Hampshire Ave. N. W.,  
14 rooms, 2 baths, \$60.00.  
2518 and 2520 13th St. N. W.,  
12 rooms and bath, \$50.00.

A folder descriptive of all properties will be mailed upon request. Write or telephone.

**Alonzo O. Bliss, Owner**  
W. E. COWEN, Agent

Telephone, East 685 35 B Street N. W.